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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/086,136

02/26/2002

Joel Leleve

1948-4768

4161

27123

7590

09/07/2004

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EXAMINER

DEBERADINIS, ROBERT L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2836

DATE MAILED: 09/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/086,136

Applicant(s)

LELEVE, JOEL

Examiner

Robert DeBeradinis

Art Unit

2836

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 June 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 February 2002 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The reply filed 6/1/04 consists of remarks related to rejection of claims. The claims are not allowable for reasons given below.

Drawings

Figure 1 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.121(d)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 6/1/04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that the present invention is directed to a simple power supply at 12 volts resulting from a higher voltage. The Applicant goes on to say that Brinster discloses a DC voltage regulator, for use in supplying a constant output voltage when energized by a variable unidirectional input voltage and that even if one of ordinary skill in the art were to combine the teachings of Brinster and the AAPA, the combination still would not include all of the features as recited in claim 1.

AAPA discloses a power supply device for 12-volt electrical components which are installed in a motor vehicle, in particular for components of the lighting or indicator system, from an electrical-energy source including a protection network.

Brinster discloses a DC voltage regulator, for use in supplying a constant output voltage when energized by a variable unidirectional input voltage (figure 1). It is obvious that the electrical-energy source the voltage of which is higher than the voltage developed by the zener to supply regulated voltage to the load and the regulated power supply is a zener diode (11). The protection is an obvious part of the regulator, reversing the polarity of the source causes the load to be disconnected from the source and over voltage protection is protected by the zener voltage regulator (13, 11).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) in view of Brinster (US patent 3,214,668). As per claim 1, AAPA (page 2, line 25+) teaches that 12-volt electrical vehicle components can be powered by using a DC/DC converter connected between a higher voltage source and said component but does not specifically disclose the

voltage reference for the regulated power supply provided by said converter being a Zener diode approximately equal to 12 volts. However, Brinster teaches a DC/DC voltage converter, wherein a voltage reference for regulated power supply provided by said converter is a Zener diode approximately equal to the component required voltage (Figure 1; col 1 , line 7 1 +).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify AAPA'S DC/DC converter with Brinster's regulated

converter for the purpose of ensuring a constant voltage drop across a suitable range of currents.

As per claim 2, Brinster teaches a single additional active component consisting of a transistor (15) compatible with the currents and the voltages of the power-supply network.

As per claim 3, Brinster teaches the transistor being an npn type (Figure 1).

As per claim 4, Brinster teaches the base of the transistor being linked to the cathode of the Zener diode the anode of which is linked to earth, and the base of the transistor, furthermore, linked to its collector via a resistor, while the emitter of

the transistor is linked to the load and while a capacitor for filtering against the entry of induced currents is wired parallel between the emitter and eadh. AAPA (Figure 1) teaches a diode being connected between the electrical-energy source

and the load for polarity reversal protection and a filtering capacitor in parallel with the load.

As per claim 5, AAPA teaches that the electrical-energy source could be pulsed (page 2, line 33+).

As per claim 6, AAPA teaches the electrical-energy source comprising a chopper (page 3).

As per claim 7, AAPA teaches that the voltage of the electrical-energy source could be 42 volts (page 2, line 33+).

As per claim 8, AAPA teaches the duty cycle of the pulsed source being of the order of 1/9 (page 2, line 33+).

As per claim 9, AAPA teaches the power supply device being implemented in a vehicle-headlight attitude corrector (page 2).

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

Art Unit: 2836

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Robert L. DeBeradinis whose number is (571) 272-2049. The Examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus, can be reached on (571) 272-2058. The Fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9306.

RLD

AUGUST 23, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert L. DeBeradinis', with a stylized, cursive script.

**ROBERT L. DEBERADINIS
PRIMARY EXAMINER**